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10/551,767	01/12/2007	Masao Nonaka	2005_1235A	4721

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TRAN, QUOC A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/551,767	NONAKA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Quoc A. Tran	2176	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>03 October 2005</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-24</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-24</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>03 October 2005</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. <u>PCT/JP04/04796 dated 04/01/2004 priority No. 10/406,217 dated 04/04/2003 US</u>.

      3.☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>05/30/08;11/21/07;08/22/07&10/03/05</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This is **a Non Final** Office Action in response to the Patent Application filed

10/03/2005. Claims 1-24 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 12 and 21-24 are independent

claims, which claimed priority of No. 10/406,217 dated **04/04/2003** (by Matshushita

Electric-Japan).

Information Disclosure Statement

A signed and dated copy of applicant's IDS, which was filed on 05/30/2008;

11/21/2007; 08/22/2008 and 10/03/2005, are attached to this Office Action.

It is noted, a portion of the references cited in the Information Disclosure

Statement filed 05/30/2008 fail to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and

MPEP § 609 because item "CA" of the reference does not list the publication date, title,

author for the references. The examiner has not considered, and has lined through,

that portion of the Information Disclosure Statement as to the merits (see the

attachments strike-out line items for details).

Applicant is advised that the date, title and author of any re-submission of any

item of information contained in these Information Disclosure Statements or the

submission of any missing elements will be the date, title and author of submission for

purposes of determining compliance with the requirements based on the time of filing

the statement, and title and author including all certification requirements for statements

under 37 CFR 1.97(e). See MPEP § 609.05(a).

Claims Rejection – 35 U.S.C. 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Sull et al., (US 20070033292A1 Division of No. 09/911,293 filed 07/23/2001)

[hereinafter "Sull"], in view of **Yamato et al.,** (US 20020104101A1 filed 01/31/2002)

[hereinafter "Yamato"].

Regarding **independent claim 1**, Sull teaches:

> **A content-related information delivery system including: a playback apparatus.**

(at Page 6 Paragraph [0047]→Sull discloses this limitation in that the multimedia content can be facilitating, creating, storing, indexing, searching, retrieving and rendering on any device [set-top box (STB), apparatus], wherein the multimedia content can be one or more frames of video, audio data, text data such as a string of characters, or any combination or permutation thereof.)

> **comprising: a monitoring unit operable to monitor a current playback position of a content during playback, a playback position information**

generating unit operable to acquire the current playback position from the

monitoring unit,

(At Fig. 9 and Para [0198]→Sull discloses this limitation in that a monitoring unit [i.e.,

Multimedia content presentation positional item 906 of Fig. 9] operable to monitor a

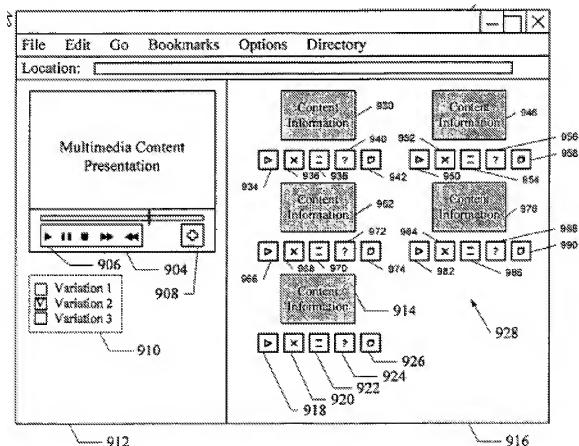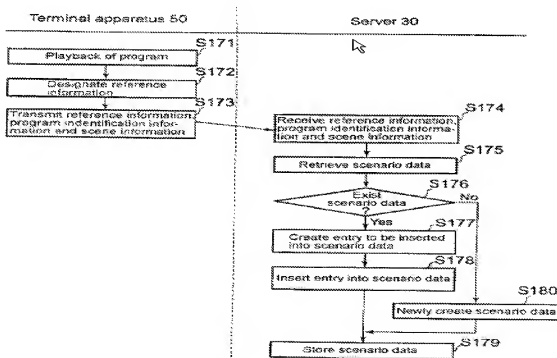current playback position of content during playback).

Figure 9

In addition, Sull does not expressly teach but Yamato teaches:

a playback positioning information transmitting unit operable to

transmit the generated playback position information to a server,

(At Fig. 14 and at Page 16 Paragraph [0215→0216]→Yamato discloses this limitation

that is during subsequent playback of the program at S171 the designate reference

information [i.e., a play back position] is transmitted at S173 to the server item 30. This

is generally set forth at Fig. 14- S171-S173 and at Paragraphs [0215-->0216] of

Yamato. Also See Example 12 at Para [0220], Ymato discloses the Recording a

Program on a Terminal Apparatus and then, During Subsequent Playback of the

Program, Linking Program-Relevant Information to a Specific Element that is displayed

in a Scene in the Program and Registering in a Server.

the server comprising:

a playback position information receiving unit operable to receive the playback position information from the playback apparatus, a related information acquiring unit operable to acquire information related to the segment of the content specified by the received playback position information,

(At Fig. 14 and at Page 16 Paragraph [0215→0216]→Yamato discloses this limitation that is during subsequent playback of the program at S171 the designate reference information [i.e., a play back position] is transmitted at S173 to the server item 30. This is generally set forth at Fig. 14 S171-S173 and at Paragraphs [0215-->0216] of Yamato. Also See Example 12 at Para [0220], Ymato discloses the Recording a Program on a Terminal Apparatus and then, During Subsequent Playback of the Program, Linking Program-Relevant Information to a Specific Element that is displayed in a Scene in the Program and Registering in a Server.)

A related information transmitting unit operable to transmit the acquired related information to a destination apparatus.

(At the Abstract →Yamato discloses this limitation in that an information transmission source that transmits media information by way of mass media; a server that stores content information linked to media information; and a terminal apparatus to which content information stored in the server is delivered to the terminal apparatus.)

Accordingly, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to modify Sull' a method and apparatus for facilitate the creating,

storing, indexing, searching, retrieving and rendering of multimedia content on any

device [set-top box (STB)] capable wherein the multimedia content can be one or more

frames of video, audio data, text data such as a string of characters, or any combination

or permutation thereof, to include a means of said the server comprising a playback

position information receiving unit operable to receive the playback position information

from the playback apparatus, a related information acquiring unit operable to acquire

information related to the segment of the content specified by the received playback

position information, a related information transmitting unit operable to transmit the

acquired related information to a destination apparatus as taught by Yamato, because

they are both from the analogous art of facilitate the creating, storing, indexing,

searching, retrieving and rendering of multimedia content between terminal apparatus

[i.e. STB] and server. Therefore, the artisan would have well appreciated that Yamato

relates to general method and apparatus for transmitted from terminal apparatus by way

of Internet is received by receiver of server and transmitting back to the playback

terminal the specified content in Sull; this is done in an iterative manner to provide an

information that both enables extensive collection of relevant information that relates to

media information that is transmitted by mass media and that uses the provision of

media information to provide users with this relevant information that relates to media

information that is transmitted by mass media and that uses the provision of media

information to provide users with this relevant information. This is generally set forth at

Page 2 Para [0018-0019] of Yamato.

*Regarding **independent claim 2,***

        Claim 2 recites a playback apparatus configured to perform the method of

claim 1. Thus, Sull and Yamato disclose every limitation of Claim 2 and provide

proper reasons to combine, as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 1 - Also

see Sull at Para [0047], discloses retrieving and rendering of multimedia content

on any device [set-top box (STB), apparatus], wherein the multimedia content

can be one or more frames of video, audio data, text data such as a string of

characters, or any combination or permutation thereof.

*Regarding **independent claim 12,***

        Claim 12 recites a server configured to perform the method of claim 1.

Thus, Sull and Yamato disclose every limitation of Claim 12 and provide proper

reasons to combine, as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 1.

*Regarding **independent claim 21,***

        Claim 21 is fully incorporated similar subject of claim 1 cited above. Thus,

Sull and Yamato disclose every limitation of Claim 21 and provide proper

reasons to combine, as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 1.

In addition, Sull teaches:

Playback position information acquiring step of generating playback

position information showing a segment of the content;

(At the Abstract →Sull discloses this limitation in that the multimedia bookmark

facilitates the searching of portions or segments of multimedia files, particularly when

used in conjunction with a search engine. Also Sull further discloses a monitoring unit

[i.e., Multimedia content presentation positional item 906 of Fig. 9] operable to monitor a

current playback position of a content during playback, see Fig. 9 and Para [0198].)

*Regarding **independent claim 22,***

Claim 22 recites a content related information request program executable

by a playback apparatus configured to perform the method of claim 1. Thus, Sull

and Yamato disclose every limitation of Claim 22 and provide proper reasons to

combine, as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 1 - Also see Sull at Para

[0016], described the set-top box (STB) is the personal video recording (PVR)

contains digital video encoder/decoder based on an international digital video

compression standard such as MPEG-1/2.

*Regarding **independent claims 23 and 24,***

Claims 23 and 24 are fully incorporated similar subject of claims 1 and 21

cited above. Thus, Sull and Yamato disclose every limitation of Claims 23 and 24

and provide proper reasons to combine, as indicated in the above rejection for

Claims 1 and 21.

Claim 2,

Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 2 and further comprise:

A playback position information generating unit operable to generate playback position information specifying a segment of the content;

(At the Abstract →Sull discloses this limitation in that the multimedia bookmark facilitates the searching of portions or segments of multimedia files, particularly when used in conjunction with a search engine.

Also see Fig. 9 and Para [0198] →Sull discloses this limitation in that a monitoring unit [i.e., Multimedia content presentation positional item 906 of Fig. 9] operable to monitor a current playback position of content during playback).

In addition, Sull does not expressly teach but Yamato teaches:

And a playback position information transmitting unit operable to transmit the generated playback position information to the server.

(At Fig. 14 and at Page 16 Paragraph [0215→0216] →Yamato discloses this limitation that is during subsequent playback of the program at S171 the designate reference information [i.e., a play back position] is transmitted at S173 to the server item 30. This is generally set forth at Fig. 14 S171-S173 and at Paragraphs [0215-->0216] of Yamato. Also See Example 12 at Para [0220], Ymato discloses the Recording a Program on a Terminal Apparatus and then, During Subsequent Playback of the Program, Linking

Program-Relevant Information to a Specific Element that is displayed in a Scene in the

Program and Registering in a Server.)

Accordingly, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to modify Sull' a method and apparatus for facilitate the creating,

storing, indexing, searching, retrieving and rendering of multimedia content on any

device [set-top box (STB)] capable wherein the multimedia content can be one or more

frames of video, audio data, text data such as a string of characters, or any combination

or permutation thereof, to include a means of said a playback position information

transmitting unit operable to transmit the generated playback position information to the

serve as taught by Yamato, because they are both from the analogous art of facilitate

the creating, storing, indexing, searching, retrieving and rendering of multimedia content

between terminal apparatus [i.e. STB] and server. Therefore, the artisan would have

well appreciated that Yamato relates to general method and apparatus for transmitted

from terminal apparatus by way of Internet is received by receiver of server and

transmitting back to the playback terminal the specified content in Sull; this is done in an

iterative manner to provide an information that both enables extensive collection of

relevant information that relates to media information that is transmitted by mass media

and that uses the provision of media information to provide users with this relevant

information that relates to media information that is transmitted by mass media and that

uses the provision of media information to provide users with this relevant information.

This is generally set forth at Page 2 Para [0018-0019] of Yamato.

Claim 3,

Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 2 and further comprise:

a selecting subunit operable to receive a user selection of a desired scene of the content; an acquiring subunit operable to acquire a playback position of the selected scene of the content; and a generating subunit operable to generate the playback position information that includes the acquired playback position;

(At Fig. 6 and Para [0164] →Sull discloses this limitation in that the multimedia bookmark is generating metadata for several variations of a multimedia content. For example, in the case of video content, the segment may be a single frame, a single shot consisting of successive frames, or a group of several successive shots.)

Claim 4,

Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 3 and further comprise:

A monitoring unit operable to monitor a current playback position of the content during playback, wherein the acquiring subunit acquires the playback position of the selected scene from the monitoring unit;

(At Fig. 9 and Para [0198]→Sull discloses this limitation in that the a monitoring unit [i.e., Multimedia content presentation positional item 906 of Fig. 9] operable to monitor a current playback position of a content during playback and item 928 shows the sub units of 912.)

Claim 5,

Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 4 and further comprise:

> **content identifier acquiring unit operable to acquire a content identifier uniquely identifying the content, wherein the monitoring unit monitors the current playback position by measuring a time period elapsed from a start of the playback, and the generating subunit generates the playback position information that includes the content identifier acquired by the content identifier acquiring unit and the playback position acquired by the acquiring subunit;**

(At Fig. 9 and Para [0198]→Sull discloses this limitation in that the a monitoring unit [i.e., Multimedia content presentation positional item 906 of Fig. 9] operable to monitor a current playback position of a content during playback and item 928 shows the sub units of 912. Also Sull further discloses each segment may be described by some elementary semantic information using texts. The segment is referenced by the metadata using media locators such as frame number or time codes- See Sull at Para [0017].)

Claim 6,

Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 5 and further comprise:

> **a display unit operable to display the content on a screen; and an on-screen position acquiring unit operable to receive a user selection of a desired point on the screen displaying the selected scene and acquire an on-screen position of the selected point,**

wherein the generating subunit generates the playback position

information that includes the content identifier, the playback

position, and the on-screen position;

(At Fig. 9 and Para [0198]→Sull discloses this limitation in that the a monitoring unit

[i.e., Multimedia content presentation positional item 906 of Fig. 9] operable to monitor a

current playback position of a content during playback and item 928 shows the sub units

of 912. Also Sull further discloses each segment may be described by some elementary

semantic information using texts. The segment is referenced by the metadata using

media locators such as frame number or time codes- See Sull at Para [0017].)

Claim 7,

Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 4 and further comprise:

Wherein the playback apparatus reads the content from a

portable recording medium and plays back the read content he

monitoring unit monitors the current playback position on the

recording medium during playback of the content, and the acquiring

subunit acquires the playback position of the selected scene on the

recording medium.

(at Page 6 Paragraph [0047]→Sull discloses this limitation in the multimedia content

can be facilitating, creating, storing, indexing, searching, retrieving and rendering on any

device [set-top box (STB), wherein the multimedia content can be one or more frames

of video, audio data, text data such as a string of characters, or any combination or

permutation thereof. Also Sull further described one of the features provided by the

recent set-top box (STB) is the personal video recording (PVR) that allows simultaneous

recording and playback [recording medium].

Claim 8,

  Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 3 and further comprise:

    wherein the content is composed of a plurality of frames, each

    frame includes a playback time showing a time from a start of the

    content at which the frame is to be played back, and the acquiring

    subunit acquires a playback time of a frame corresponding to the

    selected scene;

(At Fig. 9 and Para [0198]→Sull discloses this limitation in that the a monitoring unit

[i.e., Multimedia content presentation positional item 906 of Fig. 9] operable to monitor a

current playback position of a content during playback and item 928 shows the sub units

of 912. Also Sull further discloses each segment may be described by some elementary

semantic information using texts. The segment is referenced by the metadata using

media locators such as frame number or time codes- See Sull at Para [0017].)

Claim 9,

  Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 2 and further comprise:

    Wherein the content is composed of a plurality of frames, the

    selecting subunit acquires a frame corresponding to the selected

> **scene, and the generating sub-unit generates the playback position**
>
> **information that includes the acquired frame;**

(At Fig. 9 and Para [0198]→Sull discloses this limitation in that the a monitoring unit

[i.e., Multimedia content presentation positional item 906 of Fig. 9] operable to monitor a

current playback position of a content during playback and item 928 shows the sub units

of 912. Also Sull further discloses each segment may be described by some elementary

semantic information using texts. The segment is referenced by the metadata using

media locators such as frame number or time codes- See Sull at Para [0017].)

Claim 10,

> Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 2 and further comprise:

> **A related information receiving unit operable to receive from**
>
> **the server, information related to the segment of the content**
>
> **specified by the playback position information;**

(At Para [0047]→Sull discloses this limitation in that the multimedia content can be

facilitating, creating, storing, indexing, searching, retrieving and rendering on any device

[set-top box (STB), wherein the multimedia content can be one or more frames of video,

audio data, text data such as a string of characters, or any combination or permutation

thereof. Also Sull further discloses the positional and content information to be included

in the multimedia bookmark may be readily obtained from the video's source. However,

to obtain the desired metadata, the multimedia bookmark process 5206 preferably

accesses network 5202 via two-way communication medium 5204 to thereby establish

a communication link with metadata server 5210, This is generally set forth at Para

[0318] of Sull.)

Claim 11,

      Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 10 and further comprise:

                The playback apparatus playback the content in association

                with the related information received by the related information

                receiving unit;

(At Para [0047]→Sull discloses this limitation in that the multimedia content can be

facilitating, creating, storing, indexing, searching, retrieving and rendering on any device

[set-top box (STB), wherein the multimedia content can be one or more frames of video,

audio data, text data such as a string of characters, or any combination or permutation

thereof.

      Also at Fig. 9 and Para [0198] →Sull discloses a monitoring unit [i.e., Multimedia

content presentation positional item 906 of Fig. 9] operable to monitor a current

playback position of content during playback. Also Sull further discloses each segment

may be described by some elementary semantic information using texts. The segment

is referenced by the metadata using media locators such as frame number or time

codes- See Sull at Para [0017].)

Claim 13,

      Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 12 and further comprise:

Claim 13 is fully incorporated similar subject of claim 1 cited above. Thus,

Thus, Sull and Yamato disclose every limitation of Claim 13 and provide proper

reasons to combine, as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 1.

In addition, Sull teaches:

A related information storage unit operable to store, for each scene

of the content, information related to the scene in association with a

playback position of the scene, at the server,

(Sull further discloses a set top box ("STB") with the personal video recorder ("PVR")

functionality. In this embodiment 6800 of the present invention, the metadata agent

6806 receives metadata for the video content of interest from a remote metadata server

6802 via the network 6804; this is generally set forth at Para [0320] of Sull.

See also at Page 7 Para [0064] → Page 8 Par [0074] →Sull discloses this

limitation in that editing a multimedia file by providing a metafile, the metafile having at

least one segment that is selectable and recordable, the recording can be applied not

only to videos stored on CD-ROM, DVD and hard disk but also to streaming videos over

a network.)

Claim 14,

Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 13 and further comprise:

The related information storage unit stores, for each scene of the

content, the related information which is a frame corresponding to the

scene or information generated by processing the frame.

(At Page 7 Para [0064] → Page 8 Par [0074] →Sull discloses this limitation in that

editing a multimedia file by providing a metafile, the metafile having at least one

segment [i.e., frame] that is selectable and recordable, the recording can be applied not

only to videos stored on CD-ROM, DVD and hard disk but also to streaming videos over

a network. Also Sull further discloses each segment may be described by some

elementary semantic information using texts. The segment is referenced by the

metadata using media locators such as frame number or time codes- See Sull at Para

[0017].)

Claim 15,

Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 13 and further comprise:

The related information storage unit stores, for each scene of the

content, the related information which is a frame corresponding to the

scene or information generated by processing the frame.

(At Page 7 Para [0064] → Page 8 Par [0074] →Sull discloses this limitation in that

editing a multimedia file by providing a metafile, the metafile having at least one

segment [i.e., frame] that is selectable and recordable, the recording can be applied not

only to videos stored on CD-ROM, DVD and hard disk but also to streaming videos over

a network. Also Sull further discloses each segment may be described by some

elementary semantic information using texts. The segment is referenced by the

metadata using media locators such as frame number or time codes- See Sull at Para

[0017].)

Claim 16,

Claim 16 recites a destination storage unit operable to perform the method of claims 1 and 12. Thus, Sull and Yamato disclose every limitation of Claim 12 and provide proper reasons to combine, as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 1.

In addition, Sull teaches:

a user identifier receiving unit operable to receive from the playback apparatus a user identifier uniquely identifying a user of the playback apparatus; and a destination storage unit operable to store a plurality of user identifier each in association with a destination with a peace of information showing a destination apparatus for transmission of the related information,

(At Para [0316] →Sull discloses this limitation in that the bookmarks are captured from sports programs, science function programs, and comedy programs. As the recommendation engine 5004 examines the "genre" attribute contained in the metadata of each multimedia bookmark wherein over time and as the user saves additional multimedia bookmarks, the recommendation engine 5004 is better able to identify the user's viewing preferences. As a result, whenever the user wishes to view a program, The recommendation engine can use its predictive capabilities to serve as a Guide to the user through a multitude of program channels by automatically bringing together the user's preferred programs. The recommendation engine 5004 may also be configured to perform similar analyses on such metadata

information as the "actors," "title," etc.)

Claim 17,

      Claim 17 is fully incorporated similar subject of claims 1 and 16 cited above. Thus, Sull and Yamato disclose every limitation of Claim 17 and provide proper reasons to combine, as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 1.

Claim 18,

      Claim 18 is fully incorporated similar subject of claims 1 and 16 cited above. Thus, Sull and Yamato disclose every limitation of Claim 17 and provide proper reasons to combine, as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 1.

In addition, Sull teaches:

An apparatus other than the playback apparatus,

(At the Abstract→Sull discloses this limitation in that the bookmarks to multimedia files, such as movies, and audio files, such as music facilitate the searching of portions or segments of multimedia files, particularly when used in conjunction with a search engine. Additional methods are provided that reformat a video image for use on a variety of devices that have a wide range of resolutions [i.e., other than the playback apparatus.]

Claim 19,

Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 16 and further comprise:

Billing unit operable to charge the user for the related information,

based on the user identifier.

(At Para [0325] → Sull discloses this limitation in that the content providers can charge

consumers at the nominal cost for metadata download.)

Claim 20,

Sull and Yamato teach the method of claim 10 and further comprise:

Wherein the playback position information receiving unit receives, as

the playback position information, a frame out of a plurality of frames

constituting the content, and the related information acquiring unit

generates the related information by processing the received frame.

(At Para [0031] → Sull discloses this limitation in that the Metadata of a video segment

contain image information such as the key frame [i.e. a frame out of the frames] of a

segment.)

It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the

prior art references and any interpretation of the references should not be considered to

be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon

for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art.

See, MPEP 2123.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quoc A. Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-8664. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon through Fri 8AM - 5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on (571)272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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